

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 NEA-10 CU-02 ORM-02 VO-03
INSE-00 SCA-01 /091 W
-----190005Z 066398 /63

P R 181645Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7552
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 MOSCOW 6930

GENEVA FOR AMBASSADOR TOON

ROME FOR WENICK

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT PFOR SHUM CSCE UR US
SUBJECT: VECHERNYAYA MOSKVA ATTACKS ON AMERICAN JOURNALISTS, OTHERS
WHO INCITE SOVIET JEWISH REFUSENIKS

SUMMARY: BASED ON INTERVIEW WITH RECANTED REFUSENICK, A LONG
ARTICLE IN MAY 17 VECHERNYAYA MOSKVA (VECHERKA) BITTERLY ATTACKS
AMERICAN
JOURNALISTS RESIDENT IN MOSCOW, A FORMER EMBOFF AND SOME AMERICAN
"TOURISTS" WHO VISIT THE SOVIET UNION. REFUSENIKS ARE ACCUSED OF
MANUFACTURING STORIES ON THE JEWISH QUESTION FOR ANTI-SOVIET PUR-
POSE OF JOURNALISTS, AND ARE AIDED AND ABETTED BY OTHERS MENTIONED.
END SUMMARY.

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1. MAY 17 VECHERKA CARRIES HALF PAGE ARTICLE BY R TOPOLYEV
ENTITLED "ACCORDING TO AN ALIEN SCENARIO" BASED ON LONG INTERVIEW
WITH FORMER REFUSENIK LEONID TSYPIN. HAVING SEEN THE LIGHT,
TSYPIN
EXPLAINS WHY HE BECAME A REFUSENIK AND WHAT EVIL ACTIVITIES
REFUSENIK JEWS CARRY OUT IN THE SOVIET UNION. HE EXPLAINS THAT
HE WAS ONLY 19 IN 1971 AND AS A YOUNG, NAIVE, IMPRESSIONABLE

MAN DECIDED, AGAINST THE ADVICE OF HIS PARENTS, TO GO TO ISRAEL. HE WAS GIVEN AN INVITATION LETTER FROM A FICTITIOUS RELATIVE, BUT OVIR REFUSED TO ALLOW HIM TO LEAVE. HE GAVE UP HIS JOB, AND BECAME ASSOCIATED WITH "PEOPLE CALLED IN THE WEST 'FIGHTERS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS". HE NAMES POL'SKIY AND SLEPAK AS TWO OF THEM.

2. TXOPIN EXPLAINS THAT THE "ANTI-SOVIT" ACTIVITIES OF THE REFUSENIK COMMUNITY ARE ORGANIZED AND FINANCED FROM ABROAD. THE REFUSENIKS ENGAGE IN UNACCEPTABLE ACTIVITIES, STIR UP SCANDALS AND IN SOME CASES FABRICATE INFORMATION. REFUSALS OF EXIT PERMISSION TO JEWS ARE DISTORTED TO APPEAR AS VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS EVEN THOUGH REFUSALS WERE FOR PERFECTLY VALID REASONS. ORGANIZATIONS CALLED "SOKHNUT" AND THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR SOVIET JEWRY ARE DESCRIBED AS SENDING MONEY, GIFTS AND PACKAGES ON WHICH UNEMPLLYED REFUSENIKS WERE ABLE TO LIVE QUITE WELL. TSYPIN SAYS THAT SUCH REFUSENIK LEADERS AS LUNTS, SLEPAK AND LERNER POCKETED MUCH OF THIS MONEY. THEY QUARRELED AMONG THEMSELVES IN AN ATTEMPT TO GET MORE SYMPATHY IN THE WEST. IN AN OBLIQUE ATTACK AT LOS ANGELES TIMES CORRESPONDENT TOTH, TSYPIN NOTES THAT HE WROTE AN ARTICLE ABOUT DISUNITY IN THE REFUSENIK COMMUNITY BUT WAS "ASHAMED" TO MENTION NAMES.

3. TSYPIN GOES ON TO DESCRIBE HOW REFUSENIKS CONTRIVE THEIR ANTI-SOVIET ACTIVITIES. INSTRUCTIONS ARE RECEIVED FROM HOURNALISTS AND SOME DIPLOMATS, AND THE STORIES ARE FILED BEFORE THE EVENTS OCCUR. HE DESCRIBES ONE ATTEMPT TO FABRICATE AN INCIDENT AT ON SOVIET OFFICE IN 1973 AND MENTIONS ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO PROVOKE A DEMONSTRATION BEFORE PRESIDENT NIXON'S VISIT IN 1974. HE MENTIONS ZBARSKY, INEZ WEISSMAN, IRENE
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AND SIDNEY MANEKOVSKIY FROM THE US, JUNE JACOBS OF THE UK AND BARUCH POLLACK OF CANADA AS PARTICULARLY ACTIVE IN ENCOURAGING REFUSENIK ACTIVITIES.

4. TSYPIN THEN LINKS A LUNTS AND L GENDIN WITH L ROSENBLUM OF THE UNIONOF COUNCILS FOR SOVIET JEWRY WHO ALLEGEDLY SAID THAT HE COULD NO "HELP" SOVIET JEWS UNELSS HE RECEIVED INFORMATION (UNSPECIFIED) IN RETURN. LUNTS ALLEGEDLY SUPPLIED MONEY FOR TSYPIN TO VISIT KIEV AND KHARKOV IN AN ATTEMPT TO FIND "FACTS" CONCERNING VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS OF JEWS. COMMON CRIMINALS WRE DESCRIBED AS POLITICAL PRISONERS AND SIGNATURES WERE FORGED ON LETTERS OSTENSIBLY FROM SOVIET REFUSENIKS. IN AN ASIDE, TSYPIN COMMENTS THAT A RIGOROUS SILENCE WAS OBSERVED CONCERNING THOSE FORMER SOVIET JEWS IN THE WEST WHO WERE UNHAPPY THERE.

5. TSYPIN COMMENTS ABOUT INVOLVEMENT WITH THE REFUSENIKS OF A FORMER MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY, M. WENICK. IN A LONG CONVERSATION WITH TSYPIN, WENICK

PURPORTEDLY GAVE DETAILED COMMENTARY ON THE PLANS OF THOSE WHO HAD TEMPORARILY BEEN REFUSED PERMISSION TO EMIGRATE FROM THE USSR, OFFERED CORRECTIONS TO THESE PLANS AND RECOMMENDED THAT TSYPIN AND OTHER REFUSENIKS "MORE OFTEN CARRY OUT HOOLIGAN TRICKS IN PUBLIC PLACES IN MOSCOW IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH THE APPEARANCE OF A CONTINUOUS PROTEST."

6. TSYPIN ACCUSES JOURNALISTS J PIPERT, H SMITH, D BONAVIA, A FRIENDLY AND G KRIMSKY, OF REGULARLY MEETING DISSIDENTS IN ORDER TO SET UP FAKE NEWS STORIES. STEVE BROENING OF AP IS PORTRAYED AS INCITING THE DISSIDENTS TO TAKE ACTION DURING THE DEBATE ON THE JACKSON AMENDMENT, WHILE JAMES JACKSON (CHICAGO TRIBUNE) IS ACCUSED OF ENCOURAGING THE REFUSENIKS "ABOUT THE NECESSITY OF GETTING IN CONTACT WITH SO-CALLED DISSIDENTS, MEETING WITH ORLOV, GRIGORYENKO AND THEIR COMPANY." TSYPIN OBSERVES THAT FOR SOME PEOPLE IN THE WEST IT IS ESSENTIAL TO FABRICATE THE STORY THAT THERE EXISTS AN OPPOSITION IN THE CONFIDENTIAL

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7. TSYPIN THEN GOES ON TO GIVE DETAILS OF HIS CONTACTS WITH
B JAMES OF UPI, G KRIMSKY OF AP, AND JIM SHAW OF TIME.
HERE HE MAKES THE METHOD OF CONTACT WITH CORRESPONDENTS SOUND
LIKE A TYPICAL SPY STORY.

8. THE ARTICLE ENDS WITH A LONG MEA CULPA IN WHICH TSYPIN
EXPLAINS THAT HAVING SEEN THE LIGHT HE WISHES ONLY TO COMMUNICATE
TO OTHERS "IN HIS FATHERLAND" ABOUT THE DANGERS TO WHICH HE
WAS EXPOSED.

9. COMMENT: THIS ARTICLE SEEMS DIRECTED PRIMARILY
AGAINST AMERICAN JOURNALISTS ASSIGNED TO MOSCOW. IT IS NOTE-
WORTHY THAT ONLY ONE THIRD COUNTRY JOURNALIST (BONAVIA) WAS
NAMED AND ONLY AMERICAN NEWS ORGANIZATIONS AND PAPERS WERE
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MENTIONED BY NAME. THE ARTICLE SEEMS DESIGNED TO GET ACROSS
TO THE AVERAGE SOVIET READER THAT REFUSENIKS ARE DANGEROUS
PEOPLE ENGAGED IN ANTI-SOVIET ACTIVITIES AND ARE AIDED AND
ABETTED IN THIS BY AMERICAN JOURNALISTS WHO ARE PREPARED TO GO
EVEN TO THE LENGTHS OF MANUFACTURING NEWS STORIES. IT IS
PERHAPS NOTEWORTHY THAT OF JOURNALISTS MENTIONED ALL BUT TOT
HAVE ALREADY LEFT THE SOVIET UNION AND THAT TOT IS SOON TO
LEAVE. FORMER EMBASSY OFFICERS NIDK LEFT MOSCOW IN 1973.

10. THE CHOICE OF VECHERKA, A PAPER READ BY MANY FOREIGNERS IN
MOSCOW, AND THE FACT THAT TASS ENGLISH CARRIED A LONG EXTRACT
FROM THE ARTICLE INDICATES THAT THE ARTICLE IS DESIGNED TO
HAVE A FOREIGN IMPACT AS WELL. THIS ARTICLE MIGHT PRESAGE AN
ATTACK ON THE ACTIVITIES OF JOURNALISTS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE
BELGRADE CSCE REVIEW CONFERENCE. THE ATTACKS AGAINST ORLOV
AND GRIGORYENKO SEEM TO US TO BE FAIRLY ROUTINE, ALTHOUGH IT
IS THE FIRST TIME THAT GRIGORYENKO HAS BEEN MENTIONED BY NAME
IN SOVIET PROPAGANDA IN SOME TIME. END COMMENT

11. PRESS GUIDANCE. IF ASKED ABOUT THE ALLEGATIONS AGAINST
WENICK, WE INTEND TO SAY THE CHARGES ARE, OF COURSE, ABSURD.
MATLOCK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, ANTISOVIET, ALLEGATIONS, JOURNALISTS, PRESS CONFERENCES, DISSIDENT FACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MOSCOW06930
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770544/aaaablvt.tel
Line Count: 217
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 05d3e390-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2471569
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VECHERNYAYA MOSKVA ATTACKS ON AMERICAN JOURNALISTS, OTHERS WHO INCITE SOVIET JEWISH REFUSENIKS SUMMARY:
BASED ON INTERVIEW WITH RECANTED REFUSENI
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, SHUM, UR, US, CSCE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/05d3e390-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009